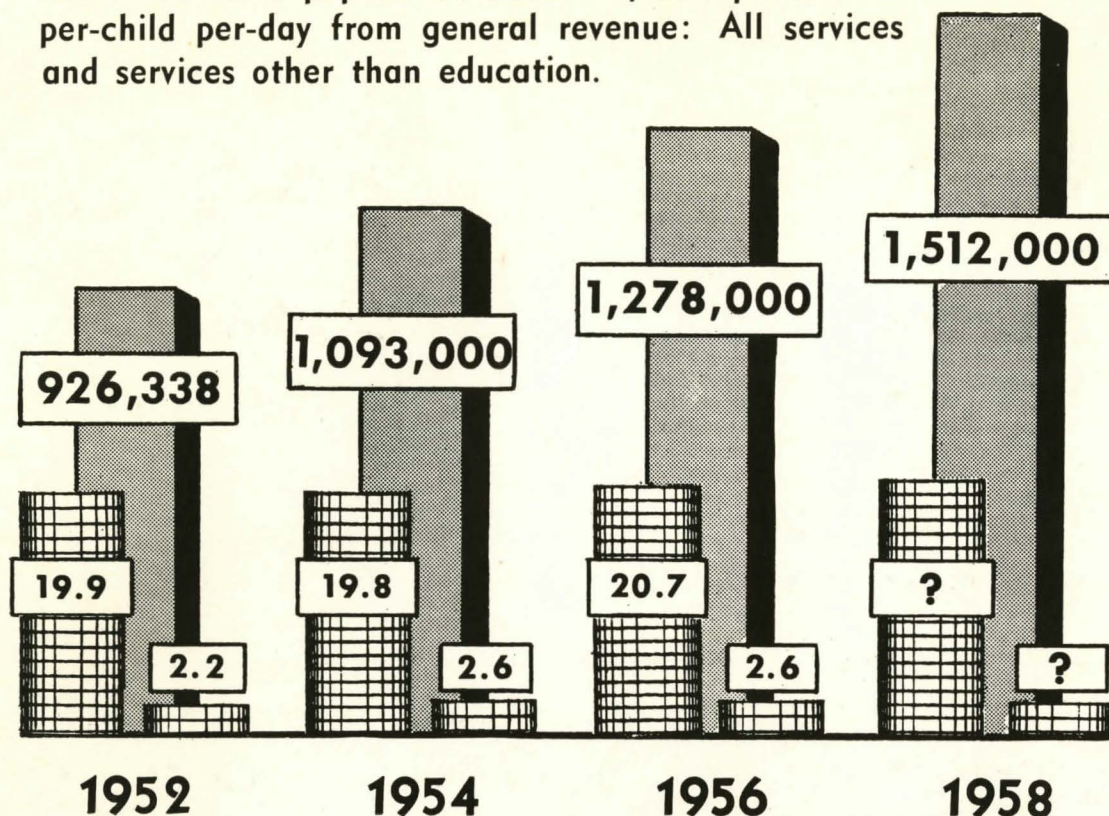




They NEED —

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Estimated child population under 18, and pennies per-child per-day from general revenue: All services and services other than education.



The above chart is evidence that appropriations for children roughly parallel estimated increases in child population for the last six years. This is not the same thing as saying that appropriations have been adequate.

Shown above is the estimated child population in Florida for July of even years: the mid-point in each biennium. We started with the 1950 U.S. Census, which is the last really reliable "head count" we've had. We then assumed a direct relationship between the children known to be in Florida's public schools since that time, and the total number of children under 18.

Such an assumption may be challenged, of course. It does not take into consideration the marked increase in children under six during the last half-decade, which we know about from the birth rates. Also it presumes that an age group of roughly five to sixteen years in the public schools (about half the total child population) represents the same constant proportion of the child population under 18 today as it did in 1950.

Yet the method has its good points, too. The State Department of Education's figures on average daily attendance in public schools come closer to an actual head count of any portion of our child population than any other figures since 1950. ADA is the mainmast of the minimum foundation program, by which the Legislature appropriates funds.

Moreover, ADA has increased rapidly each year, at a rate faster than the U.S. census current estimates of Florida's population under 18. There is

plenty of reason to believe that U.S. current figures consistently underestimate our population growth.

Our estimates of child population growth in Florida, based on ADA, follow U.S. estimates rather closely for the first few years. But in 1954 and thereafter, these estimates exceed U.S. figures at a steadily increasing rate. And we have a hunch that school attendance is perhaps a closer indication of child population than any official extension of the 1950 census, no matter how sophisticated.

The "money" part of the chart shows the amount we have spent from general revenue for each "estimated" child each day during the last six years. These figures exclude earmarked funds and county tax aid. They are what the Legislature has appropriated from funds directly under its control every two years.

The bigger stack of pennies is the daily per-child cost of ALL services for children each biennium. The smaller stack of pennies represents what is spent out of that total for all other services for children, excluding education: health, welfare, children's institutions.

The cost figures, of course, would differ proportionately according to the population estimates on which they were based. Yet the general picture is that of the Legislature appropriating money in a way consistently related to increasing child population. This consistency, however, does not suggest that we're doing all we need to do for Florida's children—nor does it point up the declining purchasing power of the dollar.

YOU are the Legislator--



--and here are Florida Children's Commission recommendations to you, as required by law.

THE few pages before you will tell you about what is *really* needed for children in this state. We've tried to keep it simple—individual budgets of agencies which serve Florida's children have plenty more details to fret you. This booklet, instead, is a quick look at the story which might be hidden in long columns of figures—insights you'll want to have when it comes to passing that appropriations bill.

Every two years, an awful lot depends on you. *You* spend hundreds of millions of dollars from general revenue. That's not the whole story, of course. There are matching funds and earmarked funds which make the whole picture a lot more complex. But a lot of the money *you* control goes for children.

Yep, you're Florida's Mr. Moneybags. It's a tough job.

There just isn't enough general revenue to do everything that needs to be done. So it boils down to a compromise—who gets how much, and why. It's not easy, working with close to five hundred million dollars.

Your job is to squeeze the budget to fit funds available. One of our jobs, for ten years now, has been to point out things you'll want to know about, when you take a close look at appropriations for children. About half of the money you spend every two years is for children. From your viewpoint, that's a whopping lot of money. But we're obliged to point

out to you that in a lot of cases it's *not* enough. Sure, any appropriations bill in any legislature is a compromise between "can do" and "would like to do." The frightening thing about such a compromise is that so much of it directly affects children.

So don't be shocked by the millions of dollars requested. Take a look at a few of the reasons: take a look at the chart on the opposite page.

This chart shows the estimated increase in the number of Florida's children for even years since July, 1950. The even years, of course, would be the middle years in each biennium.

Every biennium you increased appropriations, to take care of the increase in child population. The increase in *total* appropriations may look tremendous. Actually, they only reflect rising costs and increasing child population.

Biggest item on the budget is education: about seventy-five dollars a year from general revenue for each child under 18. All other services for children (institutions, welfare, industrial schools) add up to another ten dollars a year for each child.

But let's be blunt:

1. This chart doesn't say that legislative appropriations since 1951 have been *adequate*. All it does indicate is that we're keeping our heads above water, at about the same rate for the last six years.

2. It's going to cost *more* money to *improve* and *expand* services so that they can reach a larger *proportion* of the children who need them.

3. A dollar doesn't buy as much as it did in 1950. Or 1955, for that matter. In 1950, the dollar was worth about 97¢ of the 1947-49 consumer's index average. In 1955, it was worth 87¢; in 1956, 85¢.

In short, the economic facts of life have a lot to do with who gets how much of what—which, you'll have to admit, is pretty important when it comes to children.

All through this booklet runs the same thread: Florida's agencies which provide services for children are asking for more money. First, because there are more children. Second, because they'd like to do the job better, with better trained people and more of them. So maybe it's not "empire building" after all—but instead the very human wish to do the job *right*: the way it *ought* to be done. Agencies have the same problem you do: solving the often-wide range between "can do" and "would like to do."

We hope that glancing through this booklet will help you to do your job the way you want to do it. Maybe you'll think closely about the many, far-reaching effects of the services Florida does—or does not—provide her children.

SPECIAL PROBLEMS Florida faces

Some have been around for a long time. Others are relatively new. All have one thing in common: they need ACTION.

1. Most of a child's problems can be traced to his home and neighborhood. Successful rehabilitation of a juvenile delinquent returning from a training school depends to a great extent on what happens to him when he gets back into the environment from which he was taken. Supervision and assistance after release (aftercare) has a lot to do with whether a youngster turns up again at the training school, or later in adult institutions. One of the weakest points in Florida's program for rehabilitation of juveniles is the lack of consistent follow-up on children released from training schools. There is little or no probation service in the majority of Florida counties, and no centralized administrative authority to develop a standardized aftercare program on a statewide basis.

Today, as we did two years ago, we recommend a statewide aftercare program for children released from training schools, staffed by qualified personnel in sufficient number.

2. Two years ago we emphatically opposed inclusion of youth services under a proposed Department of Corrections, as a backward step of 130 years. We said that juvenile and adult institutions need not be under a single authority to share supply services perhaps common to both. We pointed out that the U. S. Children's Bureau, the National Probation and Parole Association, the Committee on Training Schools, and the American Psychiatric Association all insist that training schools should NOT be under the supervision of an authority which has as its primary responsibility the administration of penal institutions for adults. The reason is simple. Since 1825, child rehabilitation programs have been regarded as distinct from adult penal systems. Inclusion of both programs under a director primarily responsible for adult penal systems always leaves the door open to the possibility of progressive destruction of juvenile rehabilitation programs, an intrinsic structural flaw.

Now, two years later we still emphatically oppose the inclusion of industrial training schools under any "prison" system, or under any "Prison Director." Such apparent efficiency threatens to be at the cost of effective rehabilitation of children.

3. Two years ago, we called attention to the fact that Florida does not provide for, and has never provided for, children who become psychotic before they are 15 years old. Such children can land anywhere from jail cells to the industrial schools. We recommended that some provision be made within existing institutions until further action was taken at the end of a study of the problem.

Today, we concur with others who have recommended the planning, construction, and staffing of a residential center for psychotic children in conjunction with the facilities of the Southeast Florida Mental Hospital.

Such a center ought to attempt effective treatment, not just confinement. Estimates of the cost of such a center range from \$4,000 to \$12,000 per child per year—a very expensive program. Yet such a residential center could provide invaluable training to specialists, and contribute much new research to the field—as well as treatment of the children involved.

4. Two years ago, we pointed to the inadequacy of health, education, and welfare services for migrant children. *Today, in like vein, we recommend support of the Board of Health's request for additional workers to deal with the migrant health problem. We feel that similar attention should be paid to welfare and educational services, also pressingly needed.*

5. Two years ago, we recommended increases in aid to dependent children based on the maximum amounts in which the federal government will participate, and a sufficient staff to do a more thorough job of investigation and supervision of the casework load. Current ADC maximums have not changed since 1951, and are insufficient to achieve the objective of rehabilitation of family life in basic decency and health. Nor is Florida able to take full advantage of federal matching funds.

Today, we again recommend an increase in ADC maximums (to \$133) and a staff adequate to insure thorough investigation and rehabilitation.

6. And as in 1955, *we again recommend a separate appropriation for Child Welfare Services—which provide a number of specialized services distinct from aid to dependent children.*

7. Within the last few months, some of the effects of operation of child care centers by unqualified people have appeared in the news. In our own directory of Florida's child care centers, we have noted that regulatory statutes are actually only as good as the funds and staff provided for inspection and enforcement.

We recommend support of appropriate legislation (1) requiring registration of all existing child care centers by the Secretary of State, and (2) the chartering of all new centers. Further, we welcome (3) legislation to define clearly all terms associated with child care centers, and (4) to bar their use or advertisement by centers which do not meet the definitions.

We also recommend support of legislation for state-wide health and sanitary regulation of child care centers, and adequate provision for its enforcement by the State Board of Health.

8. Two years ago, we recommended state aid to county and multi-county libraries. Florida ranks a low 39th among states of the nation, in percentage of citizens having library service available. State aid for county libraries is imperative, since the maximum tax limitation for counties will provide less than \$1 per capita for 32 of Florida's counties. In 1943, \$1.50 per capita was cited as needed for minimum adequate library service. Costs have risen since that time.

Now, federal matching funds (a 5-year, \$37.5 million grant program) will be available—although for books, staff and services only, not buildings—at the rate of \$5 for every \$4 put up by any county, to a maximum of \$10,000 for any one county. Multi-county libraries can provide combined resources to many counties who cannot afford the same quality of service singly.

We again recommend support of legislation for state aid to county library systems.

9. *We recommend support of proposed legislation to eliminate court action in connection with the services of the Florida Crippled Children's Commission. The present law requires parents to go before a judge and file an oath of indigency. Few judges have the time and personnel to conduct a thorough investigation.*

The Commission already employs nurses and medical social workers who can perform this function effectively in conjunction with their regular duties. In addition, the Commission feels that the proposed legislation will increase financial contributions from parents: once a court certifies that parents are indigent, the Commission must bear the entire cost of treatment. This need not be so under the proposed legislation, since parents who are able will meet a part of the cost of treatment.

10. The present Farm Colony for mentally retarded children has a waiting list of 650 to 700 children. The list continues to grow at the rate of 300-400 children a year. New patients can be accepted at the Colony only when a child dies, or is returned to society.

We recommend immediate appropriation of funds to construct and staff a second institution for mentally retarded children. We emphasize that such an institution must be a complete plant, and not just a custodial dumping-ground for the severely retarded.

We further recommend a change in the commitment law to enable voluntary commitment to the Farm Colony and any other institution for the mentally retarded. Parents of the child so committed would contribute to the child's support as a pay-as-you-go basis.

11. *We recommend an appropriation for the construction and staffing of the Industrial School for Boys in Okeechobee county, now in the planning stage.*

12. *We recommend the planning and establishment of an administrative structure under which all institutions for children will function separate and distinct from any adult programs or institutions.*

Florida Schools

ONE of Florida's population experts has remarked that, if not another family migrated into our state for ten years, we'd still have crowded schools.

Florida's educational system must meet many problems. It's the same story as two years ago:

- tremendous population growth.
- not enough qualified teachers.
- not enough classrooms.

- - - and Florida

Florida Industrial School for Boys

This institution does not want additional housing for boys to be built on the Marianna campus. The budget estimate is based on maintaining a population of 750 boys. Present enrollment plus waiting list is in excess of this figure.

The Marianna school is the largest of its type in the nation. With the construction of another training school in Okeechobee county, it is hoped that the local population can be reduced to 500.

More and more boys are being admitted with mental and emotional troubles. The new psychiatric clinic and security unit for seriously maladjusted boys is well along in planning. The superintendent wants an adequate staff for this new facility; social case workers, a psychiatric case worker, a clinical psychologist, and a psychoanalyst.

The school experienced a 63% turnover in staff during the biennium. The present salary scale is inadequate to recruit and retain satisfactory personnel. Sixty and seventy hour work weeks are not uncommon.

—inflation chops the value of appropriations.

It costs both state and counties an average \$243 to educate one school-age child for one year. Counties pay about one fifth of the cost. The Minimum Foundation Program is going to cost the state \$211 million for the next two years; capital outlay another \$27 million.

Average daily attendance is increasing at a current rate of well above 8.5%. Almost 700,000 children are in the state's public schools—a 71% increase since 1947. While taxable wealth per pupil has increased 90% during the same period, state expenditures have upped only about 40%. We're spending proportionately less than we did. Three-fourths of the states in the nation spend more than we do. What a state spends on education may or may not be the best way to determine the effectiveness of its program, but it's a lead-pipe fact you can't buy what you don't have money for.

The teacher problem is a recurring headache. Some retire. Many leave for better-paying jobs. Population increase requires more teachers. Many are not professionally qualified.

Florida won't attract people to teaching by lowering standards. And we're going to have to match business competition if we want qualified personnel. Scholarships for teacher training

are some help to the big problem.

Florida still has no law defining responsibility or minimum standards in its school lunch program. Pretty, new school lunch buildings are an idle gesture without adequate financial support of nutritionally and educationally sound school lunch programs.

Federal aid is less than a third of what it was ten years ago. State tax aid fails to make up the difference. Severely limited funds mean less adequate meals, less qualified staffs. In 34 other states, children pay less of the cost of the program than in Florida.

Text books are no small problem, either. A kit of books costs about \$15 for a kid in high school. The entire program is going to need \$7 million, or about \$2.8 million over last biennium for increased enrollment and replacement.

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is now getting referrals from public welfare, Crippled Children's Commission, the state school for the deaf and blind, and county schools at the rate of 460 a month. An estimated 5,000 people become disabled in Florida each year. The Division can rehabilitate these people at the current rate of 1,850 a year. They're asking funds to help 6,500 during the next two years—about two-thirds of the annual disablement rate.

Industrial Training Schools

The national ratio for training schools is 2.4 children per employee. Southern schools average 4.2. Marianna's ratio is 5.6. The school is asking for increases in salary and personnel to reduce the work week and lower the staff ratio to 4.5. The average salary paid out per cottage unit to employees will still be less than half the average of southern states.

For the first time in the school's history, mental health will become an integral part of the overall program.

Wanted: \$2,062,744 for operating and capital outlay, an increase of \$540,168 over last biennium.

We again emphasize that the Industrial School for Boys, both present and planned, should in no way be associated with an adult penal program or system.

Florida Industrial School for Girls

The Ocala division of Florida Industrial School for Girls had a deficiency appropriation last biennium of \$21,500. This biennium, the division has asked for \$76,000 more than last time. Most of the increase

goes for salaries for personnel who work an average of 80 hours a week. The Ocala Division will also share equally in the cost of the requested psychiatric staff with its companion institution, Forest Hill.

Attendance has increased to 115, and the school estimates per capita costs to rise by better than 20% for each of the next two years.

Forest Hill costs have increased slightly. The educational department needs an exceptional child program, and more vocational training. A consulting psychiatrist, a clinical psychologist, a chaplain, and a commercial teacher are also asked for, as new positions. This division also had to ask for a deficiency appropriation and received \$13,800 to finish the biennium.

Forest Hill also wants an office building, a chapel, a visitor's shed, and boiler and sewage improvements. Three buildings need roofs repaired. The tab for capital outlay: \$88,000. Total request: \$326,184.

We again emphasize that the Industrial School for Girls should be in no way associated with an adult penal program or system.

Some are children forever . . .

● No attendant at the Florida Farm Colony gets the national minimum wage of \$1 an hour. Requests for salary increases are based on an attempt to put them on a par with the local market. A 20% salary increase in the attendant group will benefit about 60% of all employees. Actually, competent **permanent** employees cannot be recruited and held when wages offered by local employers are often much higher.

Although the current Farm Colony should not expand over 2000 patients, additional construction is still needed. More space is badly needed in both White and Negro schools. Further facilities

and recreation are needed for those severely retarded children who are not educable, but who are considered "trainable."

The quick picture:

Funds requested for salaries, expenses, and capital outlay: \$8,033,357—an increase of \$3,650,382 over last biennium, or 97½%; but actually, on a per capita-per diem basis, an average of 7% for the two years.

Of this figure, \$1,213,465 for building. Further additions would run another million dollars for the next two bienniums.

The original hospital is over 20 years old. It needs alterations and additions badly. The present laundry can't take care of the load.

others are deaf or blind . . .

● The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind provides academic and vocational training for children who have vision and hearing handicaps. A residential school, it has 555 students now enrolled. Services provided in this school cannot be matched at present by local facilities in most communities in the state.

Houseparents have an average of thirty students each; the recommended standard is twenty. The school is asking for salary increases, one new houseparent, three teachers, a psychologist, and a bus driver.

A building plan extended

through 1957 calls for fill-in of land, a classroom building, and rehabilitation of the industrial building—all high on the priority list. The school needs items like desks, projectors, and other equipment to replace worn-out or obsolete items.

The total tab for the biennium is \$2,515,293.

Incidentally, we welcome the increased Congressional authorization to the American Printing House for the Blind. The \$150,000 increase will help broaden the program of manufacture and distribution of books and other materials adapted for instruction of blind children.

to a few, the gift of sight

● 1,264 children are registered with the Florida Council for the Blind, in need of medical services. Helping them now will preclude tremendous expenses for eye medical care when they reach maturity.

Each year the Council receives more applications for help than it can take care of. The current yearly backlog is over 4,500 children and adults—and growing as

the population grows. The Council asks for an increase in its vocational and medical counselling staff. One new worker will be used on children's cases, and will lower the average case load to about 400 cases.

Total budget requested: \$869,226 for the biennium, an increase of \$262,626 over last biennium and roughly about half the funds that the agency gets from all sources.

CRIPPLED

● The Florida Crippled Children's Commission provides surgical, clinical, hospital and convalescent care for medically indigent crippled children. Its budget request provides for about 6% salary increases, in accordance with merit system recommendations. The agency also asks for five new medical social workers, 2 public nurses, 3 district surgeons, and 2 clerk stenographers. At present, each nurse has a case load of 850 children throughout six counties.

Today's medical and surgical care can't be bought at yesterday's prices. During the last decade hospital care costs have more than doubled. There is a strong feeling on the part of many hospitals that public agencies should pay for hospitalization at cost, not at rates below cost. The agency's increased request for hospital-care funds reflects this recommended policy of Florida hos-

HEALTH

● Over a third of county health unit services go directly to mothers and children: maternity clinics, well-baby clinics, public health nursing, school health services, immunizations—to name a few. Too keep pace with the population, the Board needs a new public health nurse every week. From this viewpoint, the 44 requested additional positions are a lot less than they seem at first glance. Florida does not even approach nationally recommended health unit staff sizes.

Some of the important items in the budget, from our viewpoint:

—\$75,000 and 14 workers for the migratory labor problem, as recommended by the Governor's committee.

—\$70,000 for medical student scholarships, and the same for dental scholarships.

—\$250,000 for polio vaccine,

CHILDREN

pitals. Cost of orthopedic appliances (artificial limbs, braces, etc.,) has likewise soared.

The increased request for funds for professional services also reflects today's concept that medical services bought by the state should not be bargained for at rates far below actual cost.

Total request for funds from general revenue: \$3,325,121—an increase of \$1,796,321 over last biennium, of which \$1,688,486 is needed to meet rising costs, need for increased services, and the expense of recent refinements in medical and surgical techniques sometimes only available outside the state.

Elsewhere we again recommend amendment to Florida statutes to eliminate court action in connection with the services of the Crippled Children's Commission. Only half a dozen states, or less, still have a law similar to Florida's.

SERVICES

down from over one-half million.

—The mental health bureau of the Board wants \$1,213,000, about four times what it got last biennium, including 37 county mental health workers (one for each county health unit). 25 child guidance clinic workers are needed to bring staffs to an adequate level, in the 14 clinics now operating, and several planned. The state board provides 40% of the cost of the clinics. As one authority put it, the "only hope of actually controlling mental illness lies in the early recognition of emotional disturbance, when treatment and management are simple."

A 38% return on a recent Board of Health questionnaire reports that there are about 400 severely disturbed children under 17, of which over 100 are actually diagnosed as psychotic. About half of the latter group is in the 14-17 age bracket.

ADC: never enough to do the job

● Aid to dependent children workers' case loads are tremendous. The ADC caseload is steadily increasing at the rate of 700 a year, but the service still reaches only a part of those who are in need. The objective of this service is the effective rehabilitation of socially inadequate families whose children are dependent and underprivileged. It can't really be achieved without more thorough case-work services, to begin with. The aid that is provided can't do what it's supposed to do without close supervision of how the money is spent, as well as additional assistance to mothers and children in working toward a greater degree of economic sufficiency.

So, first off, failure of the leg-

islature to provide for a sufficient number of case workers helps defeat the purpose of this service. Secondly, the \$81 maximum set by the 1951 legislature simply is not enough to maintain a large family in decency and health. If the intent of ADC is to provide assistance to mother (or relative) and children in order to keep them from being separated, and to insure that the mother can stay home and look after her children, then it can hardly be done at about 40¢ to 65¢ a day under present maximums.

ADC asks a maximum of \$133, which does enable the state to receive federal maximums for families no larger than a mother and four children.

... nor for child welfare

● Child Welfare needs a separate appropriation. Formerly, it was included as part of the ADC appropriation. Yet ADC is an assistance program for children in economic need who live with parents or relatives, and Child Welfare includes half a dozen specific services: housekeeper services when parents are sick, temporary shelter care, return of runaway children, foster home care for children under six, and aid to unmarried mothers under 21.

Foster home care is now pro-

vided only for children under six. Many children older than six also need foster home care: those for whom adoption is impossible, those who cannot live with parents or relatives, or those leaving hospitals and the industrial schools, who, for one reason or another, cannot return to their own homes.

Thirteen new positions in child welfare are requested. There are now 15 units operating in 16 counties. One more unit is asked, to help expand services to 19 counties.

GOOD CITIZENS:

Florida's future farmers, homemakers

● The \$573,258 requested by the Home Demonstration and Agricultural Extension services is split up in the following ways:

\$43,000 for administration; \$57,000 for supervisors; about \$400,000 for home demonstration agents and their assistants; \$137,000 for 4-H work.

This program is a joint undertaking of county, state, and federal governments, and teaches

desirable standards in leadership, citizenship, and farm and home management. County and home demonstration agents are an important link in spreading knowledge gained through university research and instruction.

There are 35,000 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H clubs. In 1956, 218,288 families were aided by home demonstration agents: an increase of 32% over the previous year.

THIS CO-ORDINATING AGENCY is charged with these responsibilities by law: to encourage community action in Florida counties; and to collect and disperse information at local, state, and federal levels. It makes recommendations biennially to the legislature on the needs of all children. It makes its own studies within the limits of funds available, and maintains a continuing liaison with local, state, federal and private agencies serving children.

The hub of its wheel is the 21 Children's Commission members appointed by the Governor. The spokes are county Children's Committee members (926 appointed by the governor during the last two years), who collect facts and work to improve services for children at the local level. Both groups are citizens' groups, and represent a substantial saving to the State: They receive no salaries, and they seek to do the job primarily where it ought to be done: at the local level. In community action, collection of information, and making recommendations, the Commission and its Committees are assisted by a small full time professional and clerical staff.

It's about time community-organization efforts were assessed on a concrete basis as well as their "intangible" effects. During this biennium the Children's Commission, staff, and county Children's Committees were directly responsible for the following achievements:

A directory of state agencies providing services for children.

A directory of Florida's child-care centers, and an analysis of statutory regulations affecting them, published under a grant from the Swisher Foundation.

Florida Industrial Commission

Child Labor Division

Florida's child labor law provides punishment for violators, and seeks to protect the welfare of children who work. Lack of funds restricts size of the agency's field force, and it must rely upon public education and understanding, and cooperation of local law enforcement officers. Good working conditions for minors is primarily a matter of community education and enforcement.

1,621 instances of child labor law violations were found in 1956. 828 youngsters were injured while working under illegal conditions. Probably 60,000 boys and girls worked in this state during the last year.

The Child Labor Section asks for \$2,000 more than last biennium—a total budget of under \$65,000, which includes a request for four new part-time clerks to keep records current.

Realistic appraisal of the law suggests certain changes which will help children who need part-time work to stay in school, or who help support their families under certain conditions of hardship. Other proposed changes will be the use of permanent age certificates for 16- and 17-year-olds, and a maximum limit on the amount of hours worked a week for this age group.

A study of curfew laws, termed a "timely report" as far away as California.

A study of aftercare services for children.

Support in passage of legislation: (a) amendment to the Juvenile Court Act, including a uniform statistical reporting plan; (b) law requiring clearance of courtroom in child molester cases; (c) child-care ordinance in Alachua county.

Attempted legislation to label all kerosene containers as poison.

Finger-tip Information Card on provisions of the Juvenile Court Act, for use and convenience of law enforcement agencies.

Study of child-welfare shelter services in Hillsborough County.

Survey of accident causes among children in Bay County.

Consultation and clerical assist-

ance in preparation of the Mayor's Report on Juvenile Delinquency in Miami.

Planning and execution of five regional conferences on handicapped children, attended by over 1,500 representatives of professional and civic groups. Conferences were financed by a grant from the Nemours Foundation.

Six county children's committee child labor workshops.

Seven conferences within the state on children under six.

First regional county children's committee meetings held in Northeast Florida. Further regional conferences and legislative workshops before legislative session.

Children's Committee studies on local resources available for handicapped children in three-fourths of Florida's counties.

Fifty active county children's committees held meetings to discuss local problems.

The funds requested by this agency are commensurate with the prolific demands made on the Commission and staff at county, committee, state, and national levels, which must be met under the broad responsibilities inherent in the Commission's statute. Reduction of this appropriation will impede the Commission's efforts on behalf of Florida's children.

Florida CHILDREN'S COMMISSION

Florida Children's Commission

328 Caldwell Building, Tallahassee

This publication, the recommendations of the Florida Children's Commission to the 1957 Legislature, is published as Volume 10, Number 1 of Florida's Children, monthly bulletin of the Commission, which has been temporarily discontinued since June, 1956.

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